

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 DLOS-06 SAL-01 L-03 EB-07

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 SS-15

NSC-05 SP-02 CG-00 DOTE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2972

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 5335

FROM USDEL AMBASSADOR RIDGWAY

DEPARTMENT FOR OES/OFA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, CU, MX

SUBJECT: MEXICAN-CUBAN FISHERIES AGREEMENT

REF: MEXICO 9659

1. YOU ARE BY NOW AWARE THAT THE TEXAS SHRIMP ASSOCIATION HAS BOTED AGAINST ACCEPTING THE TERMS OFFERED BY MEXICO FOR THE PHASE-DOWN/PHASE-OUT OF THE U.S. SHRIMP EFFORT IN THE GULF. THIS ACTION IS DISAPPOINTING AND SUGGESTS SOME VERY REAL PROBLEMS WILL FOLLOW THE SIGNATURE OF ANY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND MEXICO WHICH INCORPORATES THE PRINCIPLE OF PHASE-DOWN/PHASE-OUT.

2. WITH THIS AS BACKGROUND, IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT THAT WE KNOW BEFORE THE RESUMPTION OF TALKS IN NEW YORK, THE TERMS BY WHICH CUBAN SHRIMPING WILL BE REDUCED AND SUBSEQUENTLY TERMINATED BY DECEMBER 31, 1979. THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT CUBAN SHRIMP BOATS WILL BE ALLOWED

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TO OPERATE IN CAMPECHE SOUND HAS STUNNED US, TO SAY

THE LEAST. WE MUST KNOW WHETHER THE CUBANS ARE COMMITTED TO SPECIFIC FIGURES OF AMOUNTS, VESSELS AND LICENSE FEES FOR THE PHASE-OUT IN THAT AREA. ALSO, WE MUST KNOW WHAT EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN MEXICO AND CUBA TO ENFORCE THE LIMITATIONS OF AMOUNTS OF FISH.

3. MY OWN VIEW, AS I HAVE ADVISED THE DEPARTMENT BEFORE MY DEPARTURE ON THIS MOSCOW/WARSAW TRIP, IS THAT WE HAVE A GOOD AGREEMENT WHOSE TERMS IN SOME RESPECTS ARE INEVITABLE GIVEN OUR OWN LEGISLATION, AND, IN OTHERS, SUCH AS THE CONTINUATION OF THE FISHING INSIDE TWELVE AND ARTICLE XXVIII REGARDING TUNA, ARE MORE FAVORABLE AND FORTHCOMING THAN WE COULD HAVE EXPECTED. WE APPRECIATE THE PROBLEMS CASTENADA HAD IN OBTAINING THE DECISION IN PRINCIPLE ON CONTINUED U.S. ACCESS TO SHRIMP, BUT I AM NO LONGER ENTIRELY CERTAIN THAT THE "TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS" WHICH REMAIN ARE INSURMOUNTABLE. WE MUST HAVE EQUAL TREATMENT IN ALL RESPECTS WITH THE CUBANS AND I FOR ONE WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO MOVE TOWARD SIGNATURE WITHOUT KNOWING THE "TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS" OF THE CUBAN AGREEMENT. CAN WE EXPECT TO HAVE SUCH INFORMATION. BY AUGUST FIFTH?.

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